



PLACER COUNTY  
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**EDWARD N. BONNER**  
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

**STEPHEN L. D'ARCY**  
UNDERSHERIFF

## PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release: February 7, 2001, 1 p.m.  
Date/Time of Occurrence February 6, 2001  
Nature of Call Two arrested in park vandalism case  
Location of Call Sunrise Park, Arcadia Drive, Loomis  
Case Number  
Released by Lt. Dave Harris, (916) 652-2400

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### **SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:**

Two Loomis teens have been arrested on vandalism charges after admitting they were involved in destroying trees at Sunrise Park in Loomis.

The newly planted trees were uprooted twice after they were planted by a local Boy Scout troop to beautify the area. According to Placer County Sheriff's Detective Bruce Wilson, the first incident occurred January 13, the evening after the trees were planted. Vandals uprooted four of the plants and placed them on a park bench. When the damaged trees were found the following day, the Scouts replanted them. The next night, the same trees were again uprooted and placed on the bench.

Two nights later, a park wall was "tagged" with graffiti. Through investigation, Deputy Craig Thomas and the sheriff's Del Oro High School Resource Officer, Larry Jenks, contacted the two suspects at school. The pair later admitted to vandalizing the trees, but told officers they were not involved in the graffiti incident.

Lt. Dave Harris, commander of the sheriff's Loomis substation, said School Resource Officers such as Jenks, and other community oriented policing personnel like DARE (Drug and Alcohol Resistance Education) Officers and Community Services Officers, have proven effective in fighting crime. According to Harris, a DARE officer was instrumental in identifying several local juveniles during a traffic light vandalism spree in Loomis last year.

"These are great examples and continued validation of our commitment to having deputy sheriff's so closely associated with our school system," Harris said. "Our deputies work hard to build a rapport with the school staff and students. This relationship goes a long way in helping us solve juvenile crime. A lot of credit should be given to our School Safety Supervisor, Sgt. Art Thomas and his staff of DARE Officers, School Resource Officers, and Community Service Officers for the great jobs that they do."

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